

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 98 – SB 1137

March 26, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates a Class C misdemeanor offense, punishable by fine only, for an owner of a potentially vicious or vicious dog to fail to have the dog micro chipped for permanent identification within 30 days of being classified as a potentially vicious or vicious dog. Establishes an affirmative defense that the dog has been micro chipped by a reputable and certified doctor of veterinary medicine. Defines “potentially vicious dog” as a dog that may reasonably be assumed to pose a threat to public safety because such dog has inflicted a bite causing bodily injury, to a person or domestic animal on two or more separate occasions, unprovoked and off the property of the owner. Defines “vicious dog” as any dog that without provocation and off the property of the owner, has attacked a person causing death or serious bodily injury.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- The number of violations of this new misdemeanor offense will not be significant.
- According to the Board of Probation and Parole, there will be minimal to no impact to the Department resulting from the provisions of this bill.
- According to the Administrative Office of the Courts, any revenue or expenditures resulting from an increase in misdemeanor charges will not be significant and can be accommodated within existing resources.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/jdb

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